

PRESS RELEASE

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BIPARTISAN COALITION OF STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL URGES CONGRESS TO ACT ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

DENVER—<u>Colorado Attorney General John Suthers</u> announced today that a bipartisan group of 35 state and territorial attorneys general wrote to U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and congressional leaders to convey their support for federal immigration reform that improves our immigration system, keeps our communities safe and protects our borders.

"Maintaining the safety and security of the United States is the utmost priority and our immigration system must ensure the protection of communities and the integrity of our national borders," said Suthers.

The attorneys general stated their support for a law enforcement strategy that focuses on public safety, targets serious crime, safeguards witnesses and victims, and considers national security implications for porous borders.

They further urged a reasonable and predictable regulatory environment that considers the interests of, and the unintended consequences to, businesses, workers and consumers. A broader reform effort should eventually include a way to accurately, reliably and affordably determine who is permitted to work, ensuring an adequate labor force for a growing economy.

The attorneys general recognized that immigration policy is primarily a federal responsibility, and pledged to lend their voice and expertise to federal legislators as they move forward in this process.